

• **Antonyms 3** Level 9

Directions: Choose the word that is most nearly opposite in meaning to the word in capital letters.

1. HINDER

- A. exonerate
- B. deduct
- C. suppress
- D. maintain
- E. facilitate

2. NAVIGABLE

- A. passable
- B. obstructed
- C. laborious
- D. upstream
- E. remote

3. SCOFF

- A. ridicule
- B. worship
- C. deride
- D. commend
- E. rally

4. DALLY

- A. hasten
- B. tinker
- C. linger
- D. tire
- E. idle

5. OVERBEARING

- A. snooty
- B. tyrannical
- C. unassertive
- D. affectionate
- E. underhanded

6. RESPITE

- A. truce
- B. industry
- C. moratorium
- D. continuation
- E. reprieve

7. TANGIBLE

- A. visible
- B. superfluous
- C. definite
- D. plastic
- E. abstract

8. CONTEMPLATIVE

- A. wistful
- B. unreflective
- C. numbed
- D. aroused
- E. nostalgic

9. CRANKY

- A. bearish
- B. altruistic
- C. amiable
- D. irritable
- E. considerate

10. CONVERTIBLE

- A. fixed
- B. malleable
- C. dissimilar
- D. mature
- E. modifiable

Answers and Explanations

1) **E**

The word *hinder* means to prevent or cause delay. A storm may hinder one's progress. The opposite of hinder is to free or promote. Because *facilitate* means to assist or make easier, choice **(E)** is correct.

(A) is incorrect because *exonerate* means to clear someone from blame or fault. This is not the opposite of *hinder*, since it is too limited in meaning.

(B) is incorrect because *deduct* means to subtract or take away from a total. This is not the opposite of *hinder*.

(C) is incorrect because *suppress* means to subdue or restrain. This is not the opposite of *hinder*.

(D) is incorrect because *maintain* means to keep something at the same rate. This is not the opposite of *hinder*.

2) **B**

The word *navigable* means maneuverable or able to be passed through. A waterway is navigable if a ship can easily sail through it. The opposite of navigable is unable to be passed through. Because *obstructed* means blocked or opposing the ease of passage, choice **(B)** is correct.

(A) is incorrect because *passable* means clear of obstacles and able to be traveled on. This is synonymous with *navigable*, not the opposite of it.

(C) is incorrect because *laborious* means requiring considerable effort. This is not the opposite of *navigable*.

(D) is incorrect because *upstream* means moving in the opposite direction from that in which a stream or river flows. This is not the opposite of *navigable*, since a ship might still travel upstream on navigable waters.

(E) is incorrect because *remote* means distant. This is not the opposite of *navigable*.

3) **D**

The word *scoff* means to speak to express mockery or contempt. When someone is making fun of something, he or she is scoffing at it. The opposite of scoff is to praise something. Because *commend* means to praise formally, choice **(D)** is correct.

(A) is incorrect because *ridicule* means to subject someone to mockery. This is practically synonymous with *scoff*, not the opposite of it.

(B) is incorrect because *worship* means to treat someone with the reverence of a holy deity. This is not the opposite of *scoff*, because it is too extreme in meaning.

(C) is incorrect because *deride* means to ridicule or express contempt. This is practically synonymous with *scoff*, not the opposite of it.

(E) is incorrect because *rally* means to bring people together in support of a person or cause. This is not the opposite of *scoff*.

4) **A**

The word *dally* means to move slowly. When one dallies, he or she does not bother to hurry. The opposite of dally is to hurry. Because *hasten* means to be quick to do something, choice **(A)** is correct.

(B) is incorrect because *tinker* means to attempt to repair something in a casual or experimental way. This is not the opposite of *dally*.

(C) is incorrect because *linger* means to stay in place longer than is necessary. This is practically synonymous with *dally*, not the opposite of it.

(D) is incorrect because *tire* means to exhaust or cause to feel in need of rest. This is not the opposite of *dally*.

(E) is incorrect because *idle* means to spend time doing nothing. This is not the opposite of *dally*.

5) **C**

The word *overbearing* means unpleasantly domineering. A very forceful individual might be considered overbearing. The opposite of overbearing is submissive or not domineering. Because *unassertive* means not having a forceful personality, choice **(C)** is correct.

(A) is incorrect because *snooty* means showing disapproval or contempt toward others. This is not the opposite of *overbearing*.

(B) is incorrect because *tyrannical* means oppressively controlling. This is practically synonymous with *overbearing*, not the opposite of it.

(D) is incorrect because *affectionate* means showing fondness or tenderness. This is not the opposite of *overbearing*, since someone who is affectionate could also be forceful.

(E) is incorrect because *underhanded* means acting in a dishonest way. This is not the opposite of *overbearing*.

6) **D**

The word *respite* means a short pause or break. For example, a coffee break is a respite from the workday. The opposite of a respite is not taking a break. Because a *continuation* is the state of remaining in a particular position or carrying on with an activity, choice **(D)** is correct.

(A) is incorrect because a *truce* is an agreement between enemies to stop fighting for a certain amount of time. This is not the opposite of *respite*.

(B) is incorrect because *industry* is hard work. This is not the opposite of *respite*.

(C) is incorrect because a *moratorium* is a temporary prohibition of an activity. This is nearly synonymous with *respite*, not the opposite of it.

(E) is incorrect because a *reprieve* is a cancellation or postponement of a punishment. This is not the opposite of *respite*.

7) **E**

The word *tangible* means real and able to be touched. Something tangible is something that exists in reality. The opposite of tangible is something unreal or fanciful. Because *abstract* means existing in thought only, choice **(E)** is correct.

(A) is incorrect because *visible* means able to be seen. This is not the opposite of *tangible*.

(B) is incorrect because *superfluous* means unnecessary. This is not the opposite of *tangible*.

(C) is incorrect because *definite* means clearly stated or defined. This is not the opposite of *tangible*.

(D) is incorrect because *plastic* means easily molded or shaped. This is not the opposite of *tangible*.

8) **B**

The word *contemplative* means involving prolonged thought. A contemplative individual would often be lost in deep thoughts. The opposite of contemplative is not thinking. Because *unreflective* means not engaging in thought, choice **(B)** is correct.

(A) is incorrect because *wistful* means contemplative or having a feeling of regretful longing. This is nearly synonymous with *contemplative*, not the opposite of it.

(C) is incorrect because *numbed* means deprived of the power of sensation. This is not the opposite of *contemplative*.

(D) is incorrect because *aroused* means excited. This is not the opposite of *contemplative*.

(E) is incorrect because *nostalgic* means exhibiting a sentimental longing for the past. This is not the opposite of *contemplative*.

9) **C**

The word *cranky* means ill-tempered or irritable. Someone who gets angry very easily would be described as cranky. The opposite of cranky is pleasant in demeanor or not irritable. Because *amiable* means having a friendly and pleasant manner, choice **(C)** is correct.

(A) is incorrect because *bearish* means rough or surly. This is nearly synonymous with *cranky*, not the opposite of it.

(B) is incorrect because *altruistic* means unselfish. This is not the opposite of *cranky*.

(D) is incorrect because *irritable* means having a tendency to be easily angered. This is synonymous with *cranky*, not the opposite of it.

(E) is incorrect because *considerate* means careful not to hurt others. This is not the opposite of *cranky*.

10) **A**

The word *convertible* means able to be changed in form or function. A convertible sofa is one that can be unfolded or changed into a bed. The opposite of convertible is not changeable. Because *fixed* means predetermined and not able to be changed, choice **(A)** is correct.

(B) is incorrect because *malleable* means changeable or adaptable. This is synonymous with *convertible*, not the opposite of it.

(C) is incorrect because *dissimilar* means not alike. This is not the opposite of *convertible*.

(D) is incorrect because *mature* means fully developed or grown. This is not the opposite of *convertible*.

(E) is incorrect because *modifiable* means changeable. This is synonymous with *convertible*, not the opposite of it.